

The Hongkong Telegraph.

No. 424.

FRIDAY, JUNE 8, 1883.

SIX DOLLARS
PER QUARTER.

For Sale.

ECONOMY IN GAS.

SUGG'S FLAT FLAME BURNERS
GIVE A
SILENT WHITE FLAME
AND EFFECT AN ECONOMY IN GAS OF
30 per cent.
they can be readily attached to ordinary
Gasaliers and Brackets.

SUGG'S NEWEST BURNERS with artistic
shades for DRAWING ROOM and DINING
ROOM.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.,
Agents for Hongkong.

**ARTISTIC PORCELAIN MENU
STANDS.**
HAND-ETCHED MENU AND NAME
CARDS.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

DEVOS'S NONPAREIL KEROSENE, 150
Degrees fire test, a perfectly safe Oil.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Hongkong, 29th May, 1883. [340]

Insurances.

GENERAL NOTICE.

**THE ON TAI INSURANCE COMPANY,
(LIMITED.)**

**CAPITAL TAELS 600,000, EQUAL \$833,333-33-
RESERVE FUND.....\$70,858.27.**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

LEE SING, Esq.,..... LEE YAT LAU, Esq.,
LO YOK MOON, Esq.,..... CHU CHIK NUNG, Esq.,

MANAGER—HO AMEI.

MARINE RISKS ON GOODS, &c., taken at
CURRENT RATES to all parts of the world.

HEAD OFFICE, 8 & 9, PRAYA WEST.
Hongkong, 1st September, 1882. [601]

**NATIONAL MARINE INSURANCE
ASSOCIATION, LIMITED.**

THE Undersigned, as AGENTS for the above
CHANDISE by STEAMERS and SAILING VESSELS
from Hongkong, China, and Japan to all parts of
the world.

For further information apply to
ADAMSON, BELL & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 18th May, 1883. [393]

**YANGTSE INSURANCE
ASSOCIATION.**

**CAPITAL (Fully Paid-up).....Tls. 400,000.00
PERMANENT RESERVE.....Tls. 230,000.00
SPECIAL RESERVE FUND.....Tls. 318,215.56**

**TOTAL CAPITAL and
ACCUMULATIONS, 31st
March, 1883.....Tls. 968,215.56**

DIRECTORS.

F. D. HITCH, Esq., Chairman.
C. LUCAS, Esq.,..... W. MEYERIN, Esq.,
A. J. M. INVERARITY, Esq.,..... G. H. WHEELER, Esq.,

HEAD OFFICE—SHANGHAI.

Messrs. RUSSELL & Co., Secretaries.

LONDON BRANCH.

Messrs. BARRING BROTHERS & Co.,
Bankers.

RICHARD BLACKWELL, Esq., Agent,
68 and 69, Cornhill, E.C.

POLICIES granted on MARINE RISKS to all
parts of the World.
Subject to a charge of 10 per cent. for Interest
on Shareholders' Capital, all the PROFITS of the
UNDERWRITING BUSINESS are annually dis-
tributed among all Contributors of Business (whether
Shareholders or not) in proportion to the
premiums paid by them.

RUSSELL & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 25th May, 1883. [83]

**THE Undersigned have been appointed
AGENTS to the NEW YORK BOARD
of UNDERWRITERS.**

ARNHOLD, KARBURG & CO.
Hongkong, 15th June, 1881.

**RECORD OF AMERICAN and FOREIGN
SHIPPING.**

ARNHOLD, KARBURG & CO.
Agents.
Hongkong, 15th June, 1881. [457]

NOTICE.

**THE MAN ON INSURANCE COMPANY,
LIMITED.**

(CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED.....\$1,000,000.)
The above Company is prepared to accept
MARINE RISKS at CURRENT RATES on GOODS,
&c. Policies granted to all Parts of the world
payable at any of its Agencies.

WOO LIN YUEN,
Secretary.

HEAD OFFICE,
No. 2, QUEEN'S ROAD WEST.
Hongkong, 1st February, 1882. [106]

**UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF
CANTON, LIMITED.**

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

A FIRST INTERIM BONUS of TWENTY
per cent. upon Contributions for the year
1882 has this day been DECLARED.
WARRANTS may be had on Application at
the Office of the Society on and after the 21st
Instant.

By Order of the Board
DOUGLAS JONES,
Acting Secretary.

Hongkong, 7th May, 1883. [400]

Auctions.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions
from Messrs. RUSSELL & Co., to Sell by
Public Auction,

TO-MORROW,

the 9th June, 1883, at NOON, on Board,—
The American Barque "JOHN WORSTER,"
of 612 Tons Register, built at MEDFORD,
MASS., in 1867, of OAK and PITCHPINE,
being Copper-fastened and Sheathed with
Yellow Metal, as she now lies in this Har-
bour, with all her TACKLE, APPAREL,
&c.

TERMS OF SALE.—One-third of the Purchase
Money to be paid upon fall of the hammer, the
rest on completion of Transfer. The Vessel to
be at Purchaser's risk after being knocked down.
For Particulars apply to the Auctioneer.

G. R. LAMBERT,
Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 5th June, 1883. [434]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions
to Sell by Public Auction, on
WEDNESDAY,

the 13th day of June, 1883, by order of the
MORTGAGEE, on the Spot, at 3 P.M.,
All that Piece or Parcel of GROUND Registered
in the Land Office as INLAND LOT
No. 229A. Together with the House in
West Street, Tai Ping Shan, No. 48, measur-
ing on the North and South 10 feet East and
West 40 feet. Yearly Crown Rent \$6.82.

Also,
All that Piece or Parcel of GROUND Registered
in the Land Office as INLAND LOT
No. 229A. Together with the House No.
50 in West Street, Tai Ping Shan, measuring
North and South 10 feet East and West,
40 feet. Yearly Crown Rent \$4.68.

For Particulars, apply to
J. M. GUEDES,
Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 2nd June, 1883. [426]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions
from E. J. ACKROYD, Esq., Registrar, to
Sell by Public Auction, on

FRIDAY,

the 15th day of June, 1883, at NOON, on board,—
THE STEAMER "YOTUNG"

of 286 Tons Register or thereabouts,
And

IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARDS, ON BOARD
THE STEAMER "HONGKONG."

The above STEAMERS will be Sold as they
now lie in this Harbour, with all their
APPURTENANCES, TACKLE, AP-
PAREL, &c.

TERMS OF SALE.—One-third of the Purchase
money to be paid on the fall of the hammer,
balance on completion of Transfer. The Vessels
to be at Purchaser's risk on the fall of the
hammer.

J. M. ARMSTRONG,
Government Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 6th June, 1883. [439]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions
to Sell by Public Auction, on
SATURDAY,

the 16th day of June, 1883, on board, at 3 P.M.,
THE BARQUE "ALVA," of 632 Tons Register,
built of OAK and TEAK, Copper fastened,
will be Sold with all her TACKLE, AP-
PAREL, &c., as she now lies in this
Harbour, in one Lot.

Chronometers, and the Europe and Manila
Rope, an extra Set of New Sails, Boats of Canvas,
&c., will be Sold in separate Lots.
For Terms of Sale and Inventory, apply to
J. M. GUEDES,
Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 7th June, 1883. [441]

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.

I HAVE this day Established myself as
MERCHANT & COMMISSION AGENT
at this Port under the name of PO SHUN
YANG HONG 行 順保

CHEONG QUAN SANG.
CHOO YUN STREET,
街游營

Canton, 1st June, 1883. [427]

NOTICE.

MR. CARL F. STIEBEL will hold Our
Power of Attorney and Sign the Name
of Our Firm from this date.

DEETJEN & Co.
Hongkong, 29th May, 1883. [416]

NOTICE.

MR. JEHN ROSSETT is AUTHORIZED
to Sign Our Name per procuration from
this date.

J. ULLMANN & Co.
Hongkong, 16th May, 1883. [389]

To be Let.

TO LET.

FOR ONE YEAR from the PEAK next the New
BUNGALOW at the PEAK on R. B. Lot
30, now roofed in and nearly completed, the
property of Mr. J. ENTON SQUIRE.
For all information, apply to
BIRD & PALMER.

Queen's Road,
Hongkong, 19th April, 1883. [307]

TO LET.

No. 4, OLD BAILEY STREET.
No. 6, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,
lately occupied by PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP
COMPANY.

Apply to
DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.
Hongkong, 10th April, 1883. [7]

TO LET.

A TWO STOREY HOUSE (6 ROOMS)
with GARDEN in Mosque Junction. The
above has Gas and Water laid on and im-
mediate possession can be had.
For Particulars apply to
D. NOWROJEE,
Hongkong Hotel.

Hongkong, 6th April, 1883. [13]

Intimations.

SAYLE & CO.'S SHOWROOMS.

SAYLE & CO.

NEW SPRING GOODS.

EX S.S. "GLENCOE."

EX S.S. "GLENOGLE."

WHITE DRESS MATERIALS.
PLAIN CREAM DRESS MATERIALS.
SUMMER VEILINGS in every Color.
SUMMER BEIGES in every Color.
GALATEAS for Boys' Washing Suits.
WHITE INDIA MUSLINS.
MULL CORD MUSLINS.
WHITE VICTORIA LAUNES.
BLACK and COLORED SUNSHADES.
LADIES' PATENT LEATHER SLIPPERS.
LADIES' & CHILDREN'S BOOTS & SHOES.

New Patterns in POMPADOUR SATEENS.
Plain Colored SATEENS in every Shade.
FRENCH PERCALES in every Pattern.
Specialties in ZEPHYR CHECKS.
CANVAS CORSETS for Summer Wear.
SUMMER PAJAMAH FLANNELS.
Novelties in LADIES' SILK UMBRELLAS.
Trimmed & Untrimmed HATS & BONNETS.
A Choice Selection of FLOWERS.
OSTRICH TIPS & FLATS in Light Colours.
INKSTANDS in Great Variety.

A LIBERAL DISCOUNT FOR CASH.
SAYLE & CO.
VICTORIA EXCHANGE, HONGKONG. [249]

Hongkong, 4th April, 1883.

"NOVELTY STORE,"

MARINE HOUSE, QUEEN'S ROAD.

NOW receiving orders for PHOTOGRAPHS to be ordered from

Home of

SECULAR PICTURES.

SACRED PICTURES.

DRAMATICAL AND MUSICAL CELEBRITIES.

CELEBRATED MEN AND WOMEN.

A List of the names for selection, together with prices, can be seen at the "STORE," and
ALL GOODS ordered are charged for at the LONDON INVOICE cost without anything extra.

S. MEYERS,

MANAGER.

Hongkong, 2nd June, 1883.

KELLY & WALSH

HAVE JUST ESTABLISHED ON THEIR PREMISES AT THE REAR OF THE STORE,

A LARGE

PRINTING AND BOOK-BINDING OFFICE.

THE PLANT is quite new, the machinery being of the best and most recent construction,
and the type, which has been selected with the greatest care, includes not
only all the Standard Fonts, but an immense variety of styles in FANCY LETTERS
and ORNAMENTATION.

UNDER this head, we are prepared to execute Quickly and Cheaply all kinds of Book
Work, Commercial Reports and Circulars, Bills of Lading, Shipping, Invoice, and
Memorandum Forms, Letter Headings, Annual Statements and Reports, Telegraph
Codes, Price Lists, Forms of Bills of Exchange, Receipts, Delivery and Godown Orders,
&c., &c. We invite the fullest comparison of our Prices with those of other houses, whether
in Hongkong or at Home.

FANCY PRINTING. Having a most extensive and
valued assortment of Fancy Type, which will be maintained at the highest possible
Standard of excellence, by the addition of the newest designs immediately they are issued
from the leading English and American Foundries, we are in a position to produce first
class work, and feel confident that our efforts in this direction will give satisfaction.

GOLD, SILVER AND COLOUR PRINTING
WILL RECEIVE PARTICULAR ATTENTION.

MENUS, BALL PROGRAMMES, INVITATIONS, VISITING CARDS,
WEDDING, AT HOME, AND LAWN TENNIS CARDS.

BOOK-BINDING.
Books carefully bound in Morocco, Russia, Calf, Cloth, or in any required style.

Special terms quoted for binding the books of Club, Customs, or Private Libraries.
Music bound in limp leather or cloth, and finished in the best style of workmanship.

ACCOUNT BOOKS of every description, manufactured from Hand or Machine Made
Papers, ruled and printed to any Pattern, however intricate, and strongly bound.

Machine Ruling.
CHIT BOOKS of all kinds for Ladies, for Gentlemen, for Business, and for Official use.

ALL CHIT BOOKS purchased from our stock will be lettered free of charge.
The office is under experienced European management and subject to our constant
personal supervision.

Our prices will be found as reasonable as is consistent with sound workmanship and
good material.

The Machinery at our command will enable us to undertake work of the cheapest
kind, competing in this respect with the Chinese.

We shall at all times be glad to furnish Estimates.

KELLY & WALSH—HONGKONG.
Hongkong, 5th June, 1883. [560]

W. BREWER.

HAS JUST LANDED.

CIGARETTES.

SWEET CAPORAL, CAPORAL, FULL CAPORAL, STRAIGHT CUT, SULTANA with
ENAMELLED MOUTHPIECE.

NEW CIGARETTE TOBACCO.

NEW PHOTOGRAPHS

OF MRS. LANGTRY, COLORED and UNCOLORED.

NEW SEASIDE LIBRARY!
NEW GERMAN LIBRARY.

GEMS OF ENGLISH SONG.
GEMS OF SCOTTISH SONG.

WORLD OF SONG.
GEMS OF THE DANCE.

WALDTEUFEL'S ALBUM.
MUSICAL FAVORITE.

NEW ENGINEERING BOOKS, AND A QUANTITY OF AMERICAN NOVELTIES
NEVER BEFORE IMPORTED.

W. BREWER,
QUEEN'S ROAD.

Hongkong, 31st May, 1883.

CHS. J. GAUPP & CO.
CHRONOMETER, WATCH, AND
CLOCK-MAKERS.

JEWELLERS, SILVERSMITHS, AND
OPTICIANS.

CHARTS AND BOOKS.
NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS.

SOLE AGENTS
for Louis Audemars' Watches; awarded the
highest Prize at every Exhibition; and
for Volkmann and Sohn's

CELEBRATED OPERA GLASSES, MARINE
GLASSES, AND STROBOSCOPE.

No. 38, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL [447]

GUEDES & CO.
PRINTERS, STATIONERS, AND
BOOKBINDERS.

D'AGUIAR STREET.

EVERY KIND OF WORK EXECUTED WITH
ACCURACY, NEATNESS, AND DESPATCH
ON

VERY MODERATE TERMS.

SELECTED MATERIALS FOR
MARKET REPORTS.

Book-binding and Ruling in every style executed
at low rates. Workmanship Guaranteed.
Hongkong, 22nd August, 1882. [4]

Shipping.

STEAMERS.

FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE,
via SINGAPORE.

(Calling at Port Darwin and QUEENSLAND
PORTS, and taking through Cargo to NEW
ZEALAND, NEW CALEDONIA,
TASMANIA and FIJI.)

THE Eastern and Australian Steamship
Company's Steamship

"VORTIGERN"

will be despatched as above TO-MORROW,
the 9th June, at 4 P.M.

Parcels (all of which must be sent to our Office)
will be received until 4 P.M., of the previous day.
Contents and Value of the Parcels must be
declared.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 6th June, 1883. [407]

THE CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP
COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR MANILA (DIRECT.)
THE Company's Steamship

"JORGE JUAN,"

Captain Thebaud, will be despatched for the
above Port, on MONDAY, the 11th instant, at
FIVE P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
RUSSELL & Co.
General Managers.

Hongkong, 6th June, 1883. [437]

FOR SYDNEY, MELBOURNE, AND
ADELAIDE.

(Calling at Port Darwin and QUEENSLAND
PORTS, and taking through Cargo to NEW
ZEALAND, FIJI, NEW CALEDONIA, and
TASMANIA.)

THE Eastern and Australian Steamship
Company's Steamship

"TANNADICE,"

Captain S. G. Green, will be despatched as
above on TUESDAY, the 12th instant, at 4 P.M.

Parcels (all of which must be sent to our Office)
will be received up to 4 P.M., of the day previous.
The Contents and Value must be declared.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 8th June, 1883. [424]

UNION LINE.

FOR YOKOHAMA.
THE Steamship

"YORKSHIRE,"

Captain Arnold, due on or about the 8th instant,
will have immediate despatch for the above
Port.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
RUSSELL & Co.

Hongkong, 1st June, 1883. [422]

NOUVELLE COMPAGNIE MARSEILLAISE
DE NAVIGATION A VAPEUR.

FRAISSINET & Co.

INDIA AND CHINA LINE.

FOR SHANGHAI.
THE Steamship

"STAMBOUL,"

Maigre, Commander, due here on the 8th inst.,
will have quick despatch for the above Port.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
ADAMSON, BELL & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 15th June, 1883. [436]

NOUVELLE COMPAGNIE MARSEILLAISE
DE NAVIGATION A VAPEUR.

THE Steamship

Intimations.

A. S. WATSON & CO.

FAMILY AND DISPENSING
CHEMISTS,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS,
DRUGGISTS' SUNDRIES,
PERFUMERS,
IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS
OF
MANILA CIGARS,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
AND
MANUFACTURERS
OF
AERATED WATERS.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,
ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

THE SHANGHAI PHARMACY,
24, NANKIN ROAD, SHANGHAI.

BOTICA INGLESA,
14, ESCOLTA, MANILA.

THE CANTON DISPENSARY, CANTON.

THE DISPENSARY, FOCHOW.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

It is requested that all communications relating to Subscriptions, Advertisements, &c., be addressed to the "Manager, Hongkong Telegraph" and not to the Editor.

Letters on Editorial matters to be sent to "The Editor" and not to individual members of the staff.

Communications intended for publication must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication; but as evidence of good faith.

While the columns of the Hongkong Telegraph will always be open for the fair discussion by correspondents of all questions affecting public interests, it must be distinctly understood that the Editor does not in any way hold himself responsible for opinions thus expressed.

TO ADVERTISERS.

Advertisers are requested to forward all notices intended for insertion in that day's issue not later than THREE O'CLOCK so as not to retard the early publication of the paper.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Arrangements have been made to publish The Hongkong Telegraph daily at 2 P.M. Subscribers in the central districts who do not receive their copies before FIVE O'CLOCK will oblige by at once communicating with the Manager.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, JUNE 8, 1883.

As the present Attorney General of Hongkong has apparently determined to leave his name in bold relief on our statute book—judging from the many important ordinances he has recently introduced in the Legislative Council—we would respectfully suggest that he should make some attempt to deal with the glaring absurdities of our libel act. From the recent decisions of Lord COLERIDGE in the *Freeholder* prosecution, it is almost certain that important changes will shortly be made in the application of a law which in many respects is a cumbersome relic of barbarism and bigotry, and utterly unsuited for the requirements of the present enlightened age. There is consequently no reason why Mr. O'MALLEY should not at once take the initiative so far as this Colony is concerned, by making the necessary provisions to prevent an important ordinance from being made the medium of frivolous and vexatious suits of a similar character to that of *CHAMBERLAIN v. Boyd* lately thrown out in the Court of Appeal and Mr. Justice FRYER and Mr. Justice HAWKINS.

A recent article in the *Sydney Bulletin* on the Reform of the Libel Law, is the most sensible summing up of the present unsatisfactory state of affairs we have yet seen. Excepting in one or two minor points we thoroughly endorse our contemporary's views and heartily approve of his suggestions, which we commend to the consideration of the Attorney General. The *Bulletin* says:—It is one of the necessities of our political system that everything should have to give way to the subject of popular agitation. As an example, though a personal one, we beg to quote the libel law of New South Wales. After Sir WILLIAM MANNING's decision that a verdict practically for the plaintiff should carry overwhelming costs, the public came to our assistance, and some gentlemen (members of Parliament and others) bound themselves to take steps, when occasion served, to place the law under which the gross miscarriage of justice just quoted took place upon a more satisfactory footing. Since that time a general election has taken place, and though of course the burning question was the main one, some men have come into Parliament pledged to make impossible the wrong which we have suffered and to which the whole Press of the colony is liable. Yet except so far as public opinion can influence the judges to a better administration of the law, there is no change in the state of things. So far as the law dealing with criminal libels is concerned we do not desire any change, for we do not think that a change would be to

the public good. No true journalist wishes to have the power to asperse an opponent's character by lies; but every true journalist does desire the power of unmasking hypocrisy, cant, dishonesty, and cruelty, whether in public or private life. But, for the protection of Pressmen in the discharge of a sacred duty it is necessary that they be neither harassed by petty suits nor by plaintiffs of straw; neither by juries' justice nor by judge's law. Let it be made compulsory upon a plaintiff to furnish a *prima facie* case to the Attorney General, or other unbiased, competent, and qualified person, and let no writ issue unless upon production of that official's *falsus*. Make the plaintiff deposit a sum equal to 50 per centum of his claimed damages in the office of the court as security for costs if the verdict be against him. Let nothing be admitted in evidence which is not pertinent to the case, and let it be stated in the Act what verdict carries costs. Also, it would be an improvement if the truth of the alleged libel were made a sufficient defence in law. It might seem that such an enactment would press unduly upon the poor man, and that he could not gain justice. As things are managed at present a poor man cannot go to law against a rich one; so that the poor man need not complain particularly in this case. But it may also be said that if a man brings a libel action he ought to do so for the rehabilitation of his aspersed character, not for money. Therefore, the poor man has only to reduce his damages, and he can accomplish his justification with quite as much satisfaction. As a matter of fact, we know that most libel actions are brought in order to wring money out of newspaper owners.

Writing on what must be considered the most difficult political problem of the hour the *San Francisco Chronicle* expresses the opinion that the French, who propose to establish a protectorate in Tonquin, have passed the period of trifling and reached a point where they are in dead earnest. The Chinese are also deeply exercised at what they deem French aggression in a country which was once a dependency of the Celestial Empire. This condition of vassalage continued, says our contemporary, from early times till about the year 1400, when Tonquin succeeded in partially acquiring independence, its autonomy being finally acknowledged by China in 1428. A new ruler then established a new dynasty, which lasted for over 300 years, China maintaining a sort of suzerainty and insisting upon the empty right of investing the Anamese kings with the royal dignity. Revolutions followed, the dynasty was overthrown and its last member fled to Peking and vainly endeavored to recover his possessions by the aid of a Chinese army. The reigning house appealed to Louis XVI for assistance, which that sovereign was not able to render, owing to the Revolution of 1798, but his Anamese ally succeeded in holding his throne without him. A treaty was made between the two countries, whose provisions were not carried into effect, though it paved the way to future intercourse. The first foothold of the French in Tonquin was gained by the missionaries, whose persecution led to a Franco-Spanish war in 1858 and the erection of three of the provinces of Cochin China into a French colony, to which, afterwards, three more provinces were added, giving the French the rights they at present claim in Tonquin. These rights have been guaranteed from time to time by various agreements and understandings with the Anamese. The present misunderstanding with the Anamese authorities has arisen from an attempt of Frenchmen, under the protection of their Government, to penetrate to Yunnan, the southernmost province of the Chinese Empire, by way of the Red river, a large, navigable stream, flowing through regions rich in vegetable and mineral products. It is the trade with Yunnan which the French are seeking, and as Yunnan is a rebellious province which China cannot trust, and as the Red river flows for much of its course through the territory of Tonquin, a hostile feeling toward the foreigner has arisen, both in China and its alleged dependency.

According to the *Chronicle* these are the main points in the history of the difficulty, which may end in a war between France and China. China, it is asserted, seemed scarcely aware that she was suzerain of Corea till Commodore SHARPLEY wished her assistance in negotiating a treaty at Seoul, and if the French had not coveted Tonquin the Chinese would have gone on for a century longer, perhaps quite unaware that they had any sovereign rights in the little neighboring kingdom. As to the abstract right of France to protect Tonquin, it is quite as good as her right to protect Algiers and Tunis, and probably quite as good as that of the English to rule anywhere outside the tight little island which they have held for a thousand years. The entire question of colonization is, with few ex-

ceptions, one of force, a plea which civilization tolerates only so far as the subject peoples are perceptibly benefited by the humane rule and the enlightened Christian influence of the conquering power. How far a war between France and China would affect Europe is an open question, for England, Germany, and America, who carry on an extensive trade in these waters, would be injured by a blockade of Chinese ports. The *Chronicle* forms the conclusion, however, that it is hardly probable, that China, whose relations with Russia are of such a delicate nature, will be in haste to begin a quarrel with a first-class European power, knowing that no good and much harm may result from the contest.

TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, June 6th.
CHINA'S ULTIMATUM.

The Chinese Ambassador at Moscow (Marquis Tseng) at an interview with the special correspondent of a leading journal declared that China would assume a hostile attitude towards France on the Tonquin question, unless the French Minister comes to a satisfactory understanding with the Chinese Government.

THE ZOUAVES ORDERED TO TONQUIN.
An Algerian regiment has been ordered to Tonquin.

June 7th.
RESIGNATION OF THE EARL OF ROSEBERY.

Lord Rosebery, Under Secretary of State for the Home Department, for not complying with the wishes of his colleagues, has found it necessary to resign. A commoner will be selected to fill the post and Mr. Hibbert, member for Oldham, is named as a probable successor.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

It is stated that work will soon be begun on the first rail-road in Persia to connect Reacht, on the Caspian, with Teheran, the capital.

A REGULAR Lodge of United Service No. 1341, will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zetland Street, this evening, at 7.30 for 8 p.m. precisely.

HO ASSE, described as a butcher, was ordered to pay the sum of \$100, by Captain Thomsett this morning, for being at large in the public streets without a light or pass at the still hours of 1.30 a.m. this morning.

THE New York *Commercial Advertiser* has discovered that the trouble with the American stage is that too many of our new actors make their first appearance as Hamlet, instead of as the hind legs of the cow in "Tom Thumb."

CHU ASIN, a foreman coolie, was fined by Captain Thomsett this morning in the sum of \$5 for keeping his place in a filthy state. Mr. CHU had to be arrested by virtue of a warrant as he declined showing up at the Police Court when summoned in the ordinary manner.

ALADY taking tea at a small company, being very fond of hot rolls, was asked to have another. "Really, I cannot," she modestly replied; "I don't know how many I have eaten already." "I do," unexpectedly cried a juvenile upstart, whose mother had allowed him a seat at the table. "You've eaten eight I've been a countin'."

PATRICK MALONE and John Damiel, hailing from the land of "the stars and stripes," seamen on board the American bark *Belle of Oregon*, had an interview with Captain Thomsett this morning on a charge of being drunk and incapable yesterday. Sergeant MacDonald stated that at 1.30 p.m. yesterday he found the pair lying dead drunk near the Temperance Hall. They had their luggage with them and when taken to the station they said they had left their ship. The worthy couple admitted the charge and said they had not been discharged from the bark. His Worship handed over the run-aways to the U. S. Consul.

CHUN ANING, an unemployed Celestial, was relegated to Mr. Hayward's parental care for a term of three months' hard labor by Captain Thomsett this morning for being found in a married woman's dwelling house for the purpose of committing a felony. Mrs. Li Kai Hi stated that at daybreak this morning she was roused from her bed by a diabolical noise made by her servants; on going to kitchen she found the defendant having an altercation with the domestics. Defendant is a stranger and had no right to be on the premises, so he was given into custody. Defendant stated that he arrived this morning by a steamer and had gone to No. 3, Gage Street to look for a friend. The inmates called out "thief" and he was arrested on the spot. Mr. CHUN informed his Worship that he had had some previous experience in the "model shop" so his three months' spell will not come very hard on him during the pleasant summer months.

AN entirely novel cartridge has been tried in America. According to the inventor, the cartridge will not heat the gun, it is self-ejecting, has twice the propelling force of powder, and is much cheaper. It will also cost very much less than metallic cartridges of gunpowder, and will not be injured by water. Its material and mode of preparation are secrets, but in appearance it is like paper pulp soaked in some explosive material, and pressed into a hard roll. The ball is attached to the end of the roll, and the whole thing leaves the gun together, on the skyrack principle. It may be adapted to any gun, and is to revolutionize the ordnance department of the world. At the trial the inventor fired one of the ball cartridges into a spruce log 8 in. thick. The ball, it is said, passed entirely through the log and a 2 in. plank behind it, and flattened against a wall. After firing twelve rounds out of the same gun, there was no apparent heat, and no fuming.

"AN OLD SPORTSMAN'S" gossip on the "Sky" Race Meeting will appear to-morrow.

THE mystery of our facetious allusions to Mr. J. M. Price, as "the honourable the Surveyor General" will appear in an early issue. The honourable gentleman has been so busy lately that we have considerably refrained from upsetting his mental equilibrium, and making him feel somewhat sea-sick.

THE alterations in Garden Road now in progress under the all-seeing eye of "the honourable the Surveyor General" will undoubtedly greatly improve the appearance of the place. We submit, however, that these improvements are not merely unnecessary but are being made at the expense of far more important works which have been studiously neglected for years.

A WOULD-be witty minister once asked a country gawk what inference he would draw from the passage of Scripture which says, "The ass smothered the east wind." The youth replied that the inference he would draw from that passage was that "the ass, would smother a long time before he would get fat on it."

UNLESS under exceptional circumstances, the *Hongkong Telegraph* is invariably published about 4 p.m. Subscribers who send coolies for their paper are requested to forward a card or other means of identification. We have been "had" several times lately by enterprising coolies, who apparently place a high value on "the only newspaper in the colony."

SINCE the pest of phylloxera became so general, the adulteration of French wines has been so open and undisguised as to be thought a matter of course by commercial people, yet 18,000 wine merchants of the Department of the Seine held a mass meeting a few weeks ago, addressed themselves to the legislative and municipal authorities, asking that the abuse be corrected.

"PA's" long way ahead of Wiggins," said Melancthon to one of Mr. Marrowfat's guests, as they were examining the pictures in the parlor after dinner. "Your father is a very clever man," politely observed the gentleman to whom the remark was addressed. "Yes," continued the glibulous boys "he can tell when there's a storm coming every time just by looking in ma's face."

"He has paid the debt of nature," said a minister to a man who inquired after one of his parishioners. "Are you sure of that?" asked the man. "Oh yes, for I was at the funeral." "Well, I'm glad to hear that he paid it, for he has been owing me seven dollars for a barrel of flour so long that I had begun to think he wouldn't pay anything. Nature was mighty darned lucky, that's all I've got to say."

CHUN ASIN, a coolie, was sent to the "Retreat" this morning by Captain Thomsett, for trespassing in Mr. M. V. Matson's garden and damaging some trees and flowers yesterday. Tong Achung P.C. No. 303, stated that at about 6.15 yesterday afternoon, he saw the defendant in Mr. Matson's garden picking flowers. A coolie in the house called him in and he arrested the trespasser. Mr. CHUN stated, in his defence that he was looking for medicinal herbs. His Worship fined the "doctor" in the sum of 50 cents which the medico could not ante up, so he was ordered to be locked up for a couple of days.

KWOK ANAM, a seaman by profession, and a thief by inclination, was up this morning before both Magistrates for snatching Shok Akien's earrings, in which piece of rascality he was aided by two others who are not in custody. The trio engaged the lady's boat to go to Moy Kok at about 7.30 p.m. on the 6th instant. Her mother-in-law and herself were the only members of the crew on board the boat. When they neared Moy Kok the three "pals" rubbed some pepper over the two women's eyes and mouths and robbed them of their earrings. Help was handy when they shouted out, and the three rascals jumped into the water; the defendant being eventually secured. The ear-ring snatcher was sent into seclusion for a period of half a year.

LEUNG ACHUNG, a vehicle driver, was put into safe quarters by Captain Thomsett this morning for a period of three months, with hard labor, for snatching a pair of earrings and assaulting Chun Aho, a married woman, yesterday near the Murray Barracks. It appears Chun Aho and another woman were seated with their children in the nullah. Defendant came from behind and snatched her ear pendants. After some chasing Mr. Leung was eventually secured by the woman who clung to the thief like a leech. The woman's husband came to her assistance, when some shoemakers joined in the affray; taking the part of the rascally ear-ring snatcher. The whole crowd decamped the moment a "bobby" put in his appearance, and Mr. Leung used his knuckles ineffectually on Chun Aho's countenance in his endeavours to free himself from her clutches.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *London Times* says: "M. de Lesseps speaks very clearly as to the prospects and details of the inland sea scheme, and he thinks his personal inspection must decide its fate. The proposed basin will be fifteen times as large as the lake of Geneva. The mole-ture engendered by its presence will bring vast tracts of desert land into cultivation, and an approach to valuable forests, now wholly inaccessible, will be facilitated. Exclusive rights over this land and the forests will compensate the Company which undertakes to excavate the connecting channel. A preliminary survey has been completed by Commander Roundell, and there is no doubt that the level of the lake is fourteen meters lower than that of the Mediterranean. The chief question now requiring elucidation is the nature of the soil between Gabes and the lake. If it turns out to be anything but rock, M. de Lesseps tells me there will be no difficulty in speedily carrying out the project, which, he says, has occupied his attention ever since it was suggested to him by the Empress of the French at the opening of the Suez Canal."

THE miserable wretch of the Rochester *Post Express* has no hesitation in saying that the beauty of the Mormon religion is that even a married man can sleep with a piece of wedding cake under his pillow and dream of his future wife.

AN exceedingly pretty story was unfolded in the Probate Court the other day. Some years ago a man named James Shelton went out to Australia as a gold miner. By hard work he managed to amass a sum of money amounting nearly to eight thousand pounds. This he brought back with him to England, and went to live at Princes Risboro', near Aylesbury. Having nothing to do but to "live like a gentleman," the successful miner filled up his time by drinking, his "bouts" getting more numerous and prolonged as the weeks flew by. At last he was taken to a public-house called the Rising Sun, kept by a woman named West. This good dame at once expressed her intention of marrying the gold miner, and after pining him with drink she took him up to London, obtained a licence at Doctor's Commons, and married him straight away. After a drunken bout in London, the party returned to Princes Risboro', where the man again settled down to heavy drinking. The miner made a will by which he left the whole of his property to his wife for her life. Later he seems to have repented of this will, for he went privately to a solicitor's and made another in favour of his nieces and nephews. Shortly after this he died a hopeless imbecile entirely through drinking. It is now alleged that the second will was destroyed by the wife, who seeks to claim the property left her under the first testament. How far the facts given above are true we are unable to say, but we give them as they were set forth in the Probate Court. Under any circumstances the tale is one of the most extraordinary that has been revealed in that court for some time—and strange stories are not novelties there. Drinking is not by any means a "lost art" in Princes Risboro' since the poor miner died, if we may judge from some of the evidence tendered in the case just mentioned. A certain Henry Valentine Laker came forward as a witness. In answer to questions he said he was "part of an omnibus proprietor." Mr. Justice Brett innocently inquired, "What part?" whereupon, amidst laughter in the court, the witness replied, "The outside." He further informed the court that the deceased man took his "lotion kindly." The judge: "What do you mean by his 'lotion'?" Witness: "His liquor, sir; he took it according to his troubles, and I does the same." At a later period Laker remarked that the deceased was always pretty well "on," and that he himself tried to keep pace with him, but could not. London the deceased was very drunk, but on his return to Risboro' he was sober enough to know what he was doing out of. With this splendid definition of the standard of sobriety at Princes Risboro', the witness sat down.

IN writing on the subject of Stock Exchange Settlements, the City editor of the *World* remarks that this name is given to the bi-monthly balance-striking on the Stock Exchange, because next to nothing is "settled" thereat. A popular superstition has it that on these occasions every man who has bought stock during the fortnight preceding has to pay for it—that, in short, the market does its business on the "all cash and no credit plan." As in the case of many superstitions, there is a minute substratum of truth underlying this view, but it is so minute that it does not apply to more than one-hundredth part of the business done in the market. The other ninety-nine hundredths consist in transactions whose only aim is to secure profits or "differences" for those who enter upon them; and as the receipt of a difference implies also its payment, it follows that the chief business of the "account" consists in "settling" gains and losses on what may in plain English be called the previous fortnight's betting. It thus happens that credit to an indefinite extent may be given to operators, and liabilities for millions be carried on from month to month and year to year, in spite of these sham settlements. And this is why there is always such a "demand for money" when pay-day comes round. Men have to borrow in order to "hold" the stock they have bought, and the greater the amount of business done the larger is the necessity for borrowing from the banks. This bit of natural history will serve to explain why it is that every recurring account now makes money "tight" in the market. There are indefinitely large speculative accounts open there which have been carried on for years. The foundation of these was laid as long ago as 1846 and 1850, when the London market was glutted with money that nobody knew how to use. At that time it was the easiest thing in the world for market jobbers and gamblers to pawn millions upon millions of home and foreign securities with the banks, because the bankers could not otherwise employ the cash they found in their tills. But this state of things has gradually changed. The operators of the market still hold the greater part of the stocks they ran up to very high prices three years ago, but the banks no longer retain the money they had then lent. They are now in a position to "call" the money, and as it is now little more than is requisite for what old-fashioned people call "legitimate banking business" that is to say, it has enough for the mercantile wants of the country, but very little for the mere stock speculation. Accordingly, that speculator is now "squeezed" every fortnight, and finds himself situated much like Edgar Poe's prisoners, the walls of whose cell steadily contracted over the mouth of a horrible pig. We shall perhaps see the struggle of the operator against his fate, on for three or four months yet; but it can only end in one way, unless a new Eldorado is found, and gold by the million comes into the market to help to inflate prices again. Sooner or later the plunge into the gulf of insolvency will have to be taken by not a few of the men now so busily bawling so bravely and making so fine a show. They have themselves constructed the instrumentality which is sending them headlong to ruin. They elevated prices by their reckless purchases to a height which scared the public from the bottom of the coming deluge by themselves. Poor fellows! And some of them make such a brave show, too: live in "sumptuous" mansions, drive splendid horses, keep luxurious yachts, and give their friends such rare wines at their frequent banquets. To think that so many of these noble "speculators" who are sending their heads down the gulf of insolvency, if they had their senses to "jingle" together, they had really and truly "settled" their little accounts with the next Stock Exchange "pay-day" comes round. One wonders that a life on the volcano's crest like this could be endured for a week, but many a dance along for years.

AN adjourned meeting of the Legislative Council was held this afternoon. Full particulars will appear in our next issue.

"Why am I like a clerk in the Custom House?" asked a merry monk as he clasped a struggling nun in his arms. "Because you have a lot of brass about you," screamed the maiden. "No, my dear; it is because I'm a novice-holder." Just then the head monk made his appearance and the worldly-minded cow-wearer scooted off to his cold and cheerless cell.

THE *London Daily News* says: "In the event of the affair with Anam involving France in a war with China, it is understood that France will confine herself to blockading the Chinese ports, as she is very well aware of the difficulties of an expedition to Peking," and adds: "It will be a very serious matter to stop the trade between China, America, England and Germany, and it will be worth while for France to consider whether Prince Bismarck will submit to such action. The appointment of Peng Yu-ling as Chinese Minister of War denotes that China is determined to resist French aggression in Anam."

A GENTLEMAN took the trouble, while walking the streets of London on the anniversary of Lord Beaconsfield's death, to count the number of people who wore primroses in honor of the deceased statesman. He found that twenty-four per cent of the passers-by (of the male sex) wore the "sacred blossoms." Of the ladies eleven only manifested their sympathy with the late earl. Anybody could have ascertained this fact for himself. The gentleman should have found out for us how many primrose blossoms were sold in London on Thursday morning, and how many miles they would have reached had they been played side by side. These would have given us some information worth having.

A CORRESPONDENT in a recent number of *Notes and Queries* quotes, apparently enough Ludlow's troubles over the oath in Richard Cromwell's Parliament in 1659. "Those that governed at Whitehall had ordered an Oath to be administered to all such as should be admitted to sit in the House, whereby the members were to oblige themselves not to mention anything against the Protector. This Oath I was unwilling to take," and "tho' I had heard divers arguments for taking the Oath, yet my doubts not being fully satisfied by them, I had hitherto abstained. I went in, and the House being at prayers, I stood amongst the rest of the Members till they were ended, and then went up to the Speaker's Chamber, where, and in the gallery, I sat with as much privacy as I could. Within a day or two a Member informed me of an intention in some to complain to the House against me for sitting amongst them without the qualification of the Oath. To which I answered that it was more than I expected. And accordingly one of the Members, the same day pressed to be heard concerning a matter which he said concerned the very being of the House; having been informed that there sat a Person amongst them who had not taken the Oath. He therefore moved the House to inquire into it. This motion was opposed by some, who alleged that it was of far less importance than many other things that were before them. But Mr. John Trevor, a leading man of the Court Party, seconded the former motion, though with much civility and respect, urging that he could not but think it very reasonable and of consequence. So the debate was entered upon, and divers gave their Opinions that the Oath should be promissory required. But Mr. Weaver and some others opposed them, alleging that for the most part, Oaths proved only unites to honest Men, it being generally observed that those who were least conscientious in keeping an Oath were the most forward to take it. This Debate, continuing for two or three hours, was at length interrupted by the discovery of a person sitting in the House who had not been elected to do so. By this means the Assembly was diverted from resolving to impose the Oath, and tho' they were much inclined to get rid of my Company, they were discouraged from resuming that Debate for the future, tho' they did sometimes mention it by way of Reflection when I moved anything displeasing to them."

THE PROPOSED AUTUMN RACE MEETING.

A public meeting, convened by Mr. H. J. H. Tripp, Clerk of the Course to the Hongkong Race Fund, for the purpose of arranging a "Sky" race meeting for the ensuing Autumn, was held last evening in the Hongkong Club. The attendance, as usual on such occasions, was of the most meagre dimensions, and included but few representatives of the sporting element. Amongst others we noticed Mr. H. J. H. Tripp, Mr. D. McCulloch, Mr. R. Fraser-Smith, Mr. J. M. Gosses, Mr. W. T. Lee, Mr. T. W. Anderson, Mr. F. B. Harris, Mr. G. S. Coxon, Mr. H. Ross, Mr. F. Haselard, and Mr. J. A. Moseley. Mr. Tripp, after expressing regret that the meeting was such a small one, said as he thought there would be no difficulty in getting up a "Sky" meeting in the Autumn, the first thing would be to arrange a programme. Mr. Fraser-Smith suggested that it would be advisable to appoint a committee to arrange preliminaries before taking any other definite steps. This was assented to, and support to the committee was likely to receive from the community, he considered that it would be premature to fix upon a programme. Some informal conversation then took place in the course of which Mr. Tripp gave his opinion that the end of October would be a suitable time to hold the meeting, as the "course" would then be in pretty fair order, and as the subscription "grains" for next year's races would be here, some of the "hand" would probably be part in the race. Mr. Coxon thought the "Sky" meeting should be an entirely independent affair, not trying in any way on the regular races, and confined solely to Hongkong. The usual rules of the Hongkong Races would of course be observed. Mr. Fraser-Smith, Gentlemen, it will facilitate business greatly if we form ourselves into a regular meeting, and therefore beg to propose that Mr. Tripp take the chair, and that the proposed meeting be held on the 1st of October. Mr. Coxon seconded, and the proposal was carried. Mr. Fraser-Smith, Chairman, will you favour us with your views regarding the proposed meeting, to that we may know exactly what is intended. The Chairman's idea is that we should get up a "Sky" meeting confined entirely to local pools and riders. We might, for instance have

a lock race, a trotting contest, and a race open to all ponies, the winner to be claimed for \$150 so as to exclude the "cracks." This proviso would keep away first class ponies as owners would not risk losing them for such a small sum. We might also combine with the meeting some athletic sports, so as to make a pleasant afternoon, or perhaps two afternoons—a two days' meeting ending each day at two o'clock.

Mr. Fraser-Smith—How do you propose to raise the necessary funds?

The Chairman—By subscriptions. I don't think we shall experience any difficulty there. We have the ladies of the colony with us. One lady has already promised to get up a Ladies' Purse, and also offered to subscribe \$10 towards a tug-of-war.

Mr. Coxon—I think several gentlemen would give cups if they were solicited.

The Chairman—No doubt they will, and of course we shall change a small entrance fee. I think about \$2 would be enough. We might also have a light stepladder; we do not want a heavy one to start with.

Mr. Fraser-Smith—It will be difficult to have a much lighter one than we had last year.

The Chairman—It would be easy to arrange for some athletic sports, say a mile race for soldiers, a race for civilians, and a jockey race for those who had ridden at the meeting, and other events to make the affair as interesting as possible.

At the suggestion of Mr. Fraser-Smith the Chairman proposed that a "Sky" meeting should be held on the race course during the latter half of October. Mr. Fraser-Smith seconded and the proposal was carried unanimously.

As there was some difficulty in forming a committee owing to the absence of so many of the supporters of racing, the Chairman after drawing up a list of names, suggested that it would be better to postpone the election so that he could ascertain what gentlemen would be willing to act. A meeting could then be called to elect a committee.

There was some further general conversation in which several gentlemen took part. It was stated that winners of events at a "sky" meeting did not incur penalties for the regular races, the regulations in that respect being identical with the "Off-day" at the annual meeting. In reply to the Chairman, who expressed a strong opinion that the races should be entirely confined to Hongkong, as the presence of "cracks" would spoil the sport, Mr. Aubert remarked that there was very little fear of any of the crack crabs being present, as the training for the annual meeting there would be in full swing, an opinion in which Mr. Essex concurred.

NEW GODS IN OLD TEMPLES.

A critical stage in the modern history of religion is now being reached. The spiritual faith of the English people has long been a source of perplexity to foreign countries, and to the reflecting Briton himself. At last it is in process of being made perfectly clear. The course of the debate in the House of Commons on the Affirmation Bill, and the result of the most recent trial for blasphemous libel, clear the ground of all obscuring superfluities, and display in sharp relief the interesting outline of the national creed. Professor Max Müller has written a very instructive book, which shows that the religions of all countries and all ages possess a certain common element, and that their history is simply that of a development, and of addition to a few identical principles. The cultus is underlying by accidents of place, climate, time; the idea underlying the cultus never varies. Even within the limits of the United Kingdom there exist abundant materials for the study of comparative religion. England is a spiritual matters the microcosm of the world. The Anglican Establishment itself contains in its fold every variety of Christianity and Paganism. If therefore, we can discern a residuum merely in all the forms of faith which are professedly different, but in those which are professedly similar—namely, within the pale of the Church of England itself—we shall, it is obvious, have grasped the essence of the national religion. Now, the facts elicited in the course of the trial of Foot and Ramsey, emphasised by Foot himself, and dwelt upon by Lord Coleridge in one of the ablest and most admirable charges ever delivered from the judicial bench, as well as the prominent features of the discussion in the House of Commons, take us to the root of the matter. The vital element in the Englishman's creed is not what he believes, or the mental reserves with which he believes, but the manner in which he expresses his belief or disbelief. He may think anything and he may say most things, but he must say them in such a way that they will not outrage the national sense of decency. What does this mean but that the only deity which is recognised as paramount is that of respectability? Mr. Bradlaugh, to put the matter plainly, is excluded from the ranks of the respectable because he is not an atheist of the respectable sort. Other atheists are admitted because they have done and said nothing to scandalise the proprieties. In the same way Messrs. Foot and Ramsey are in prison, not because they have attacked the truths of Christianity, but because they have done so in such a way as to offend public sentiment. Their crime is social rather than theological, and the same thing may be said of the Roman members of the House of Commons. Messrs. Foot and Ramsey have indeed even outraged grossly in this respect than Mr. Bradlaugh. But they each of them stand upon the same level, and Mr. Bradlaugh may thank his stars that instead of being relegated to a seat below the gallery he is not languishing in a dungeon.

The Lord Chief Justice comes of a family famous for scholarship, culture, and ecclesiastical orthodoxy. He is a man of the highest learning and the deepest religious feeling; but he is also a man of the highest judicial intellect. Nearly the same description would apply to Mr. Gladstone. What, then, do we find in each of these cases? Lord Coleridge, it is clear, is of opinion that the present position of the blasphemy law and the entire system of prosecutions for blasphemy are unsatisfactory and untenable. The Prime Minister advocates the abolition of the parliamentary oath. The coincidence is so striking, the attitude of the two men who in so many respects closely resemble each other, is so impressively similar, that there must be some reason for it. Let us look at the matter a little more closely. Lord Coleridge has declared that Christianity is no longer a law of the land in the sense in which it once was; that is to say, the whole tendency of the present time is towards universal toleration. The whole tendency of the time, a hundred or a hundred and fifty years ago, was against toleration. Thus when, at the end of the seventeenth century, and the beginning of the eighteenth century, the Whigs were the champions of the Dissenters, and the Tories their enemies, there is not the slightest doubt that the great body of the English people sympathised with the latter, and were devoted to the Establishment—were, in fact, in favour of intolerance and not of toleration. This may seem a paradox, but it is true; and perhaps, it may partially be explained by the fact that the Church was in those days not only a stronghold against the deism of the one hand, and the Puritanism of the other. Thus it may be said that even the intolerance of the English people at this period was tolerated by a love of liberty and a regard for toleration. Christianity therefore being not now an integral part of the Constitution to the extent that it once was, what is the position which it

occupies? Lord Coleridge has had the courage to say that, provided the decencies of controversy are regarded, "even the fundamentals of religion may be attacked without the writer being guilty of blasphemy." Mr. Matthew Arnold has compared the First Person of the Trinity to an exalted kind of Lord Shaftesbury. He has spoken, appreciatively, it is true, but with condescension and with levity, though with perfect politeness, of the two other Persons of the Trinity. If living two hundred years earlier he had done this it is highly probable that, instead of being an ornament of London society, he would be prohibited from all intercourse with the polite world, and might be within a measurable distance of closing his career at the stake. The polemical instruments used by Messrs. Bradlaugh, Foot, and Ramsey are of a very different kind. To put it differently—and the words are used now in no profane spirit—Mr. Arnold, and writers of the school of culture to which he belongs, have treated the Almighty as a gentleman. This Lord Coleridge has ruled, is what ought to be done; and he says, with much force, "It is not quite clear to my mind that some sort of blasphemy law reasonably enforced may not be an advantage even to those who differ from the religion of a country, and who desire to oppose and deny it." No doubt, and the reason is obvious. Without some sort of blasphemy law there can be no guarantee that religious controversy will not be vulgarised and dragged through the gutter. It is a blasphemy law, properly speaking, the best method for preventing this; and might it not be possible and desirable to replace a blasphemy law by the drastic operation of a rigid measure against indecency and obscenity of speech of every kind?

The cardinal fact to be borne in mind is that there has ceased to be anything penal in attacking religion itself, and that the one thing which cannot be done with impunity is to outrage respectability. To defend respectability, therefore, and not to protect religion, must be the object of the law in the future. Without penalising for a moment the atrociously bad taste of the abuse levelled by Bradlaugh, Foot, Ramsey, and Co. against Christianity and revealed religion of every kind, let us not forget this. Foot pertinently said that the language he employed was that suited to his public and to a penny paper of the sort he conducted; that in these respects, and in these only, it differed from the language of Mr. Matthew Arnold, which was that of a half-guinea book, and was addressed to an audience of the school of culture to which he belonged. Therefore, is like religion a relative term, and it necessarily varies with religion itself. Let us put it in this way: as is the writing of Mr. Matthew Arnold to the religion of society, so is the writing of Bradlaugh, Foot, and Ramsey to the religion of the Salvation Army. There is nothing which sins more grievously against good taste itself in the blasphemous libels of the *Free Thinker* than in the hysterical libels of General Booth's worshippers. If the latter are to have a recognised place among the deistical methods, it must be expected that their assailants will adapt their criticisms and denunciations to the extravagance and vulgarity employed by those whom they criticise and denounce. Not to do so would be equivalent to meeting a bludgeon with a rapier. The conclusion at which the Prime Minister and the Lord Chief Justice have arrived, and the end which they are endeavouring to promote, are identical. Mr. Gladstone, in a speech which it is no exaggeration to say was the last piece of oratory of its kind heard for the last quarter of a century, urged that the parliamentary oath should no longer be compulsory because of the scandal that such compulsion excites. Lord Coleridge has plainly made up his mind that the time has come when, as a concession, not merely to the logic of facts, but to religion itself, the blasphemy laws must be revised. What, in effect, he said, must be punished, and what is to the interests of the community, religious or irreligious, should be punished, is not the attempt to discredit revealed religion, but to outrage respectability. For the moment our opportunities are limited to getting rid of the parliamentary oath as a formula practically obligatory on all who do not happen to be Quakers. It is a misfortune that the immediate cause of this necessity should be Mr. Bradlaugh; but we must, as the Attorney-General forcibly and fairly said in a speech which was a masterpiece of lucid exposition and logical cogency, expel the image of Mr. Bradlaugh from our minds, and think rather of those who, while they are not respectable than he, and while their antagonism is of a less aggressive type, believe as little, and can therefore with as little propriety take the oath. That they do take the oath without compulsion is owing to the fact that they adopt Mr. Mill's views on the subject, and that they regard it as a harmless superstition. In the same way they might, perhaps, if they were staying at the house of a religious family whose feelings they would wish to consult, consent to go to church on Sunday, or to appear at the prayers of the household. We say the prayers, because it is one of the very cases for which Mr. John Morley provides in the closing chapter of his book on *Compromise*. The parliamentary oath as an indispensable rite is doomed; it might have lasted much longer if the present circumstances had not arisen, and attention had not been prominently directed to it. Now that this is the case there is no alternative except that it should be abandoned. Even as it is in the interests of respectability that writings such as that for which Foot and Ramsey are now in prison should not be tolerated, so it is in the interests of respectability that the controversy respecting the parliamentary oath should be terminated by the acceptance of the Affirmation Bill. If it is not, religion itself will suffer. The old Roman patriots continued to sacrifice to their duties long after they had lost all belief in their existence; but when the fact that they had lost their belief was dwelt upon with inconvenient pertinacity, they found it difficult to maintain their sacrificial system. There is a moral in this historical instance which we need not particularly point out. It would be well if those whom it concerns will take it to heart.—*The World*.

MAILS EXPECTED.

The P. M. steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, with the next American mail, left San Francisco on the 17th ultimo, and may be expected to arrive here on or about the 15th instant.

STEAMERS EXPECTED.

The Union Line steamer *Yorkshire* left Singapore for this port on the afternoon of the 1st instant, and may be expected to arrive here on or about today.

The O. S. S. Co.'s steamer *Telmachus*, from Liverpool, left Singapore on the afternoon of the 3rd instant, and may be looked for here on or about the 10th.

The N. L. S. N. Company's steamer *Camorra* left Batavia on the 1st instant, and is due here on or about the 16th.

The steamship *Eurus* left Sydney for Hongkong, via Queensland Ports and Port Darwin, on the 20th ultimo, and is expected to arrive here on or about the 24th instant.

The Scottish Oriental Company's steamer *Talisker* left Glasgow on the 17th May, and may be expected to arrive here about the 4th July.

Today's Advertisements.

UNION LINE.

FOR YOKOHAMA.

"EUPHRATES," Captain Mitchell, will be despatched for the above Port, TO-MORROW, the 9th instant, at DAYLIGHT.

For Freight or Passage, apply to RUSSELL & Co. Hongkong, 8th June, 1883. [444]

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, AND CALCUTTA.

"JAPAN," Captain T. S. Gardner, will be despatched for the above Ports, on THURSDAY, the 14th instant, at THREE P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 8th June, 1883. [445]

FOR SYDNEY, MELBOURNE, AND ADELAIDE.

(Via Foochow, and outside of New Guinea,) granting through Bills of Lading for other AUSTRALIAN and NEW ZEALAND PORTS, THE Steamship

"OCEAN," Captain Brown, will be despatched on the 17th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 8th June, 1883. [448]

U. S. MAIL LINE.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND TOUCHING AT YOKOHAMA AND SAN FRANCISCO.

THE U. S. Mail Steamship

"CITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO," will be despatched for San Francisco, via Yokohama, on THURSDAY, the 28th inst., at THREE P.M., taking Passengers and Freight for Japan, the United States, and Europe.

Through Bills of Lading issued for transportation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports, to San Francisco, and Atlantic and Inland Cities of the United States, via Overland Railways, to Havana, Trinidad, and Demerara, and to ports in Mexico, Central and South America, by the Company's and connecting Steamers.

Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of Steamers.

RETURN PASSAGES—Passengers, who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San Francisco for China or Japan (or vice versa) within six months, will be allowed a discount of 20 per cent. from Return Fare; if re-embarking within one year, an allowance of 10 per cent. will be made from Return Fare. Pre-Paid Return Passage Orders, available for one year, will be issued at a Discount of 25 per cent. from Return Fare. *These allowances do not apply to through fares from China and Japan to Europe.*

Freight will be received on board until 4 P.M. on the 15th inst. Parcel Packages will be received at the Office until 4 P.M. same day; all Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; value of same is required.

Consular Invoices to accompany Overland Cargo should be sent to the Company's Office in Sealed Envelopes, addressed to the Collector of Customs at San Francisco.

For further information as to Passage and Freight, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 50-A, Queen's Road Central. F. E. FOSTER, Agent. Hongkong, 8th June, 1883. [1]

UNION LINE.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM HAMBURG, PENANG, AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship "EUPHRATES,"

Captain Mitchell, having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading to the Undersigned for Counter-signature and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from along-side.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Steamer will be at once landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense, and no Fire Insurance will be effected.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded on to Yokohama, unless notice to the contrary be given before Noon, TO-DAY.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Undersigned on or before the 15th instant, or they will not be recognised. RUSSELL & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 8th June, 1883. [446]

FURNITURE SALE.

ELEGANT ENGLISH AND AMERICAN FURNITURE.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co. will Sell by Public Auction, on

THURSDAY,

the 14th June, 1883, at TWO O'CLOCK P.M., at the Residence of Mrs. SANDS "The Castle,"

THE WHOLE OF HER

ENGLISH AND AMERICAN MADE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE,

Comprising—

MAHOGANY MARBLE-TOP TABLES,

CRETONNE COVERED CHAIRS, MAHOGANY MOROCCO COVERED COUCHES,

CHAIRS, PLATED ORNOLU MOUNTED FENDER AND FIRE IRONS, MIRRORS,

DINING TABLE, MAHOGANY SIDEBOARD, WHATNOT, CHAIRS, GLASS, CROCKERY and PLATED WARE.

A ROSEWOOD BED ROOM SUITE,

comprising—

CARVED BEDSTEAD WITH SPRING and HORSE HAIR MATTRESSES, WARDROBE WITH MIRROR FRONT, BUREAU, WASHSTAND with MARBLE-TOP,

IRON BEDSTADS, CHEVAL GLASS, WARDROBES, &c.

Also,

HANDSOME INDIAN CARPET,

2 FINE OIL PAINTINGS BY GEISER,

1 PENDULUM CLOCK by MORSE, London.

Catalogues will be issued, the Furniture on view from the AFTERNOON of the 13th.

TERMS—Cash.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., Auctioneers, Hongkong, 8th June, 1883. [449]

Today's Advertisements.

TO LET.

A GROUND FLOOR

AT NO. 8, OLD BAILEY STREET.

Apply on THE PREMISES. Hongkong, 8th June, 1883. [447]

TO BE LET,

WITH POSSESSION FROM THE 1ST JULY NEXT.

FIVE COMMODIOUS and well VENTILATED ROOMS suitable for OFFICES or a FAMILY DWELLING HOUSE at No. 24, Praya Central, corner of Pottinger Street.

Apply to F. VINCENT, 8, Peel Street. Hongkong, 8th June, 1883. [450]

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

MR. F. VINCENT'S WINE and SPIRIT STORE and also the BAKERY now at No. 8, PEEL STREET, will be REMOVED from 1st July next, to No. 24, PRAYA CENTRAL.

Hongkong, 8th June, 1883. [451]

NOTICE.

ST. JOHN LODGE OF HONGKONG, No. 618, S.C.

A REGULAR LODGE will be held in FREEMASONS' HALL, Zetland Street, on WEDNESDAY, the 13th instant, at 8 for 8 P.M. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited to attend.

Hongkong, 7th June, 1883. [443]

For Sale.

FOR SALE.

THE American Bark

"JOHN WORSTER,"

Built at Medford, Mass., in 1867, as she now lies in Hongkong Harbour, with all her SPARS, SAILS, STORES, &c., &c.

For Particulars, apply to RUSSELL & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 19th May, 1883. [395]

J. AND R. TENNENT'S ALE AND PORTER.

DAVID CORSAIR & SONS' MERCHANT NAVY NAVY BOILED LONG FLAX CROWN ARNHOLD, KARBURG & Co. Hongkong, 15th June, 1881. [458]

FOR SALE CHEAP.

SEVERAL GOOD PONIES, suitable for Hack, Carriage Ponies or Jumpers.

Apply to R. FRASER-SMITH, Hongkong Telegraph Office. Hongkong, 3rd March, 1883.

F. BLACKHEAD & CO.

SHIPCHANDLERS, STORE-KEEPERS, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS, PRAYA CENTRAL.

HAVE RECEIVED EX LATEST ARRIVALS.

AMERICAN CAST STEEL SHOVELS, PICKS.

AXES.

HATCHETS.

ENGINEERS' & HOUSEHOLD HAMMERS.

PATENT BIT-BRACES.

AUGER-BITS.

DRILLS.

GIMBLETS.

SQUARES.

PATENT BRASS PADLOCKS & CHEST LOCKS.

Mrs. POTT'S PATENT SADIRONS.

COOKING STOVES.

FAIRBANK'S SCALES.

FORCE-PUMPS FOR SHIPS' USE.

DRILLING MACHINES.

BREAST DRILLS, AUTOM. BORING TOOLS.

ANVILS, VICES, AND DRILLS COMBINED.

ANVILS.

VICES.

HITCHCOCK'S PATENT LAMPS.

GLASSCUTTERS.

SCROLL SAWS.

FAMILY GRINDSTONES.

BLACKSMITHS' BELLOWES.

BEST WHITWORTH'S STOCK AND DIE-SCREW WRENCHES.

PLANE-IRONS.

CHISELS.

HAMMERS.

PINCERS.

NIPPERS.

DIVIDERS.

RULES.

METAL SCISSORS.

METAL SAWS.

TUBE EXPANDERS.

OIL-FEEDERS.

OIL CANS.

SALTER'S SPRING BALANCE SCALES.

WESTON'S PATENT TACKLES.

PATENT SOCKETS.

DISTRESS SIGNALS.

HOLMES' PATENT SIGNAL LIGHTS.

FOGHORNS.

SIGNAL LAMPS.

LIFE BUOYS.

BOTTLE WASHING AND CORKING MACHINES.

SPARKLING SCHARZHOFFER BEER.

FLensburg STOCK BEER.

MARIENTHALER BEER.

VEUVE CLICQUOT PONSARDIN CHAMPAGNE.

Hongkong, 7th October, 1882. [10]

Intimations.

REQUIRED.

A SINGLE MAN without Encumbrances as STEWARD for the ROYAL NAVAL SEAMEN'S CLUB.

SALARY \$1 PER DIEM.

Applications with testimonials to be sent to the HON. SECRETARY, H.M. Naval Yard, Hongkong, 6th June, 1883. [438]

IN THE PRESS.

PRACTICAL AND INDUCTIVE BOOK-KEEPING BY

J. L. HARTMILLNER, PROFESSOR "COMMERCIAL SCHOOL" MACAO.

INTENDING Subscribers are requested to send their Names to the Undersigned, from whom a PROSPECTUS can be obtained on Application.

D. RODRIGUES, Care of Messrs. DUNN, MELVILLE & Co. Hongkong, 6th June, 1883. [440]

CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED, will be held at the Head Office, Victoria, Hongkong, on TUESDAY, the 12th day of June, 1883, at THREE O'CLOCK, in the AFTERNOON, when Resolutions will be proposed for the Subdivision of Shares and the Increase of Capital, and for such Amendments, and Additions to the Articles of Association as may be necessary for that purpose; also for Amendments and Additions to the Existing Articles of Association making provision as to Transfer and Transmission, Cancellation and Reclamation of Shares, Meeting of Shareholders, voting power of Shareholders, Investment of Funds, Constitution of Board of Directors, Appointment and Powers of Agents and Committees, and Interim Division of Profits.

A Copy of the Proposed Resolutions can be seen by any Shareholder at the Company's Office in Victoria before the date appointed for the holding of the said Meeting.

Should the Resolutions be passed by the required majority they will be submitted for confirmation as Special Resolutions to a Second Extraordinary Meeting which will be subsequently convened.

By Order of the Board, W. H. RAY, Secretary. Hongkong, 21st May, 1883. [398]

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be held at the Company's Office, No. 45, Queen's Road, Victoria, Hongkong, on TUESDAY, the 19th day of June, 1883, at THREE O'CLOCK P.M., in order to take into consideration a Special Resolution to add a Regulation to the Existing Articles of Association of the Company, authorizing the Company so far to modify the Conditions contained in its Memorandum of Association as by Sub-division of its Existing Shares to Divide its Capital into Shares of smaller amount than is fixed by the Memorandum of Association, in accordance with the provisions of

